

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW FLYING SQUIRREL FROM THE ISLAND OF
TERUTAU, WEST COAST OF MALAY PENINSULA.

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By permission of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

Among a collection of mammals from the Island of Terutau, made by Dr. W. L. Abbott, in 1904, there is an apparently undescribed species of Flying Squirrel of the genus *Petaurista*. Pulo Terutau (also written Trotau and Trotto), is a small island lying about fifteen geographic miles off the west coast of the Malay Peninsula, about five and a half degrees north of the equator. The species may be known as

***Petaurista terutaus* sp. nov.**

Type.—Skin and skull of adult male, Cat. No. 123,934, United States National Museum, collected on Pulo Terutau, April 9, 1904, by Dr. W. L. Abbott. Original number, 3219.

Diagnostic characters.—A member of the so-called *nitidus* group, similar to *Petaurista nitidula* (Thomas) of the Natuna Islands, but top of head with a grayish wash, a slight buffy wash over sides of body, and the black on the end of the tail of greater extent.

Color.—Top of neck, back, sides, upper surface of parachute, outer surfaces of fore and hind limbs and base of tail have the general effect of a bright cinnamon-rufous or a bright hazel of Ridgway, clearest and purest on top of neck and along the upper surface of parachute. Most of the hairs have blackish terminal rings, which appear to a considerable extent along the middle of back. Along the sides many hairs have wide, light buffy subterminal rings. Top of head a mixture of whitish and cinnamon-rufous. Sides of head and neck, a color between buff-pink and pinkish buff. Underparts generally, salmon-buff tending toward dull orange-rufous on the parachute. Tail, dull orange-rufous, considerably blackened toward the base and with a blackish apex, 70 to 80 mm. long. Feet, ring about eye, and small area about mouth, blackish. Posterior half of ear blackish; anterior half, dull orange-rufous.

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Skull and teeth.—These show no essential differences from those of *Petaurista nitidula*.

Measurements.—External measurements of the type: head and body, 385 mm.; tail vertebrae, 450; hind foot, with claws, 75; weight, 2½ lbs. (1134 grams). Cranial measurements of the type: total length, 64.3 mm.; basal length, 57; basilar length, 53.5; palatal length, 34.2; zygomatic breadth, 43.2; interorbital constriction, 12.4; constriction behind post orbital processes, 16.6; maxillary toothrow (alveoli), 14.2; mandibular toothrow (alveoli), 15.

Specimens examined.—One, the type.